In the Specification:

In light of the amendments to the drawings, Applicants hereby request that Examiner replace paragraphs [0015]-[0016] with the following:

[0015] Referring in detail to FIGS. 2, 3 and 4, a power detection system 100 and method 200 in accordance with the present invention are depicted. Like the conventional system 10, a preferred embodiment of the power detection system 100 of the present invention preferably includes a display device 112 such as a TV coupled to a VCR 14, a DVD 16, and other A/V devices 18, and, in the alternative, other electronic devices (not shown) as well, via control and A/V signal transmission lines or cables 22. Alternatively, the display device 112 may be wirelessly coupled to the A/V devices 14, 16 and 18. Each of the A/V devices 14, 16 and 18 includes an AC power line or cord 20. As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, the power detection system 100 of the present invention preferably includes individual current sensors 120 each coupled to the individual power cords or lines 20 of the A/V devices. Alternatively, one or more current sensors 120 may be coupled to one or more of the power cords 20 of the A/V devices. The display device 112 preferably includes a current to voltage converter 123 coupled to the current sensor 120 via control signal transmission line 122, a voltage comparator 124 coupled to the converter 123, a variable voltage supply such as reference voltage output circuit 126 coupled to the comparator 124, and a micro-controller 128, such as a TV's microprocessor or the like, coupled to the comparator 124 and the reference voltage output circuit 126. The micro-controller 128 is also coupled along control signal transmission lines 22 to the A/V devices. The current sensor 120 senses or detects the level of current passing through the AC power line 22 of the A/V device 18. The converter 123 converts the current level to a voltage signal that is inputted into the comparator 124. The comparator 124 compares the measured input voltage to an internally generated reference voltage, i.e., a threshold voltage. The threshold voltage is device specific and can be stored in memory ~~(not shown)~~ 125 in the display device (112) when the device is connected to the system and identified for the micro-controller 128. (See U.S. Published application No. US-2002-0171624-A1, CONTROL SYSTEM AND USER INTERFACE FOR NETWORK OF INPUT DEVICES, Ser. No. 10/138,702 filed May 2, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference). The threshold voltage for every network device will be stored, through a couple of steps and with the help of the user. During the first set up, the user will be

asked to connect the device 18 to display device 12 and turn it ON. The user will be asked to adjust an on-screen slider bar on the screen, which in turn will trigger micro-controller 128 to change the reference voltage 126 internally, to match with the voltage that is being generate by current to voltage converter 123. Once this internal reference voltage 126 becomes equal to this generated voltage 123, it is memorized as a threshold voltage for that specific device and on screen slider will also become green, to indicate that this threshold voltage has been memorized. The voltage output circuit 126 generates the reference voltage based on the stored threshold voltage information. The micro-controller 128, which is preferably adapted to centrally control the A/V devices 18, instructs the voltage output circuit 126 as to what reference voltage to generate and send appropriate control signals to the A/V devices 18 based on the feedback information it receives from the comparator 124.

[0016] In accordance with the power status detection and processing method 200 of the present invention, the micro-controller 128, at step 202, identifies the A/V device that is to be controlled or instructed to perform some function such as play a DVD disc. Once identified, the current sensor 120, at step 204, detects the AC power current level being drawn by the device 18 through its power cord 20. At step 206, the current level is then converted to an input voltage signal by the voltage converter 124. The micro-controller 128, at step 208, retrieves from memory 125 the threshold voltage for the particular A/V device and causes the reference voltage generation circuit 126 to generate the appropriate threshold voltage. The comparator 124, at step 210, then compares the input voltage to the threshold voltage for the particular A/V device 18. If, at step 212, it is determined that the input voltage is not greater than the threshold voltage, the micro-controller 128, at step 214, sends the A/V device 18 a "Power On" command to turn the A/V device 18 "ON" so it can receive and act in accordance with other commands or instructions sent by the micro-controller 128. After sending the "Power On" command, steps 204 through 212 for detecting current, converting current to an input voltage, retrieving and generating a threshold voltage, and comparing the input voltage to the threshold voltage are all repeated. If the input voltage is determined, at step 212, to be greater than the threshold voltage and, the A/V device 18 is determined to be ON and the micro-controller 128 then sends, at step 216, the desired commands and/or instructions to the A/V device 18.